



Environmental Site Remediation Database Search Details

7/25/2011

Site Description

The 858 East Ferry Street site is a 3.32 acre property located in the City of Buffalo. The site is currently a vacant lot. The site is situated on the north side of East Ferry Street and is zoned as commercial/industrial. The site is bordered on the north by a New York Central Railroad embankment and industrial property occupied by International Extruded Products. The True Bethel Baptist Church is located opposite of the site, on the south side of East Ferry Street. TNT Used Autos, a small used car lot, is located to the west of the site. The adjacent properties west of the site are currently zoned commercial/industrial. At the adjacent property to the west of 858 E. Ferry Street, now occupied by the used auto lot, the 1939 Sanborn map showed that a Michael Heyman Company operated a zinc and lead smelting and refining facility. Two buildings were once located on the Heyman property; the west building was the foundry and blast furnace, and the east building, nearest the 858 E. Ferry Street site, housed the metal casting facility. A 1958 aerial photo shows a path leading from the Heyman property to the central part of the East Ferry Street site. The location of the Heyman facility adjacent to the site and the path leading onto the site support the past disposal of lead-contaminated ash in this location. Under the Environmental Restoration Program (ERP), the City of Buffalo completed an investigation in 1997-1998. The results from this investigation showed significant lead contamination in soil. Based on the results of this investigation, a ROD was signed by NYSDEC in March 1999. The selected remedy included the excavation and off-site disposal of hazardous waste and contaminated soil. The ROD also stated that the remedy would be deferred until further investigation is conducted to the west of the site. Since extensive off-site contamination was found the NYSDEC conducted the additional off-site investigation and completed remediation of the site under the State Superfund program. The site is currently considered as a single operable unit. An additional investigation was completed in 2001 by the NYSDEC at adjacent properties and the results indicated that the soil is contaminated with lead on adjacent properties. The March 1999 ROD was amended in August 2005 based on a significant increase in volume of lead contaminated soil. The amended remedy included the excavation of surface and subsurface contaminated soil from the site and disposal to a permitted landfill to achieve a clean up goal for unrestricted future use and the excavation of contaminated soil from off-site properties and disposal to a permitted landfill to achieve a clean up goal for industrial/commercial use which is consistent with the current zoning. The remedial design of the amended remedy was completed in February 2006. The remedial action completed in 2007 at the site and off-site properties removed the lead-contaminated soils from surface and subsurface. The excavated soils were treated on-site and disposed appropriately in an off-site landfill. Since the contaminated soils were removed the groundwater contamination was expected to decrease. After the successful completion of the remedial action at the site, a groundwater sampling event was conducted in May 2009. The results

indicated that the on-site wells did not show lead contamination above groundwater standards, which was consistent with the sampling event during the investigation. Therefore, the site can be delisted and groundwater at the site need not be monitored in the future. Currently public water supply is available in this area.

Summary of Project Completion Dates

Projects associated with this site are listed in the Project Completion Dates table and are grouped by Operable Unit (OU). A site can be divided into a number of operable units depending on the complexity of the site and the number of issues associated with a site. Sites are often divided into operable units based on the media to be addressed (such as groundwater or contaminated soil), geographic area, or other factors.

Contaminants of Concern (Including Materials Disposed)

Type of Waste	Quantity of Waste
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LEAD	UNKNOWN
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Site Environmental Assessment

Based on the results from investigations conducted at the site the lead-contaminated soils found at the on-site and off-site areas were located near and over the top of the covered Scajaquada Creek drain. The highest concentration of total lead detected in the surface soil was 11,500 ppm, which was found beneath a pile of gray ash. The concentrations found in the subsurface soil were as high as 28,500 ppm lead. There was a potential for the contamination from the soil to migrate to Creek Drain and the groundwater. During the investigation groundwater samples were collected from the site and off-site. Total lead was detected at a concentration of 400 µg/l in the groundwater sample collected from the well located on the 856 East Ferry Street property. The sample from this well was the only sample that reported lead concentrations exceeding the NYSDEC groundwater standard. The remaining groundwater samples analyzed have detected total lead at or below groundwater standard. As stated in the amended Record of Decision (ROD), the remedial action completed in 2007 at the on-site and off-site properties removed lead contaminated soils from surface and subsurface to a clean up goal of 400 ppm of lead at the site and 1000 ppm of lead at off-site properties. As stated in the amended ROD, the goal of remediating the site to unrestricted future was achieved by implementing the remedy. The overburden deposits in the region have been mapped as lake silts and clays. The thickness of the overburden at the study area varies from approximately 8.4 feet to 17.5 feet. Beneath the overburden deposits, the bedrock consists of the Middle Devonian age Onondaga Limestone. The primary hydrogeologic unit identified beneath the study area is the unconfined watertable aquifer present in the limestone of the Onondaga Formation. However, groundwater is present in the overburden and is found primarily in the ash type fill material and in the backfilled excavation of the Scajaquada Creek Drain. The water in the overburden is reportedly connected to the bedrock groundwater. Groundwater generally flows toward the Scajaquada Creek Drain. After the successful completion of the remedial action at the site, a groundwater sampling event was conducted in May 2009. The results indicated that the on-site wells did not show lead contamination above groundwater standards, which was consistent with the sampling event during the investigation. Therefore, groundwater at the site need not be monitored in the future. Currently public water supply is available in this area. More information regarding the site can be found in the documents placed in the Site Document Repository.

Site Health Assessment

No human exposure to contamination from this site is expected since contaminated soil is either removed or covered and public water serves the area.